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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/694,837	10/29/2003	Shuichi Kumada	000862.023281	2477
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EXAMINER				
VO, QUANG N				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/694,837

Applicant(s)

KUMADA, SHUICHI

Examiner

Quang N. Vo

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 March 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7-12 and 14-16 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-6 and 13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SI/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/17/09 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

Regarding claim 1, Applicant's argument is Spronk is not seen to disclose or suggest that (i) the image processing apparatus and the other printer are present at a single site, the target printer is present at another site, and the two sites are connected through the network, and that (ii) the image processing apparatus transmits image data on which are to be performed a color matching process and a rasterizing process to the target printer.

In response: Spronk discloses the image processing apparatus (e.g., the image preparation apparatus 14, figure 1, paragraph 0046) and the other printer are present at a single site (e.g., printing press 22, figure 1), the target printer is present at another site (e.g., color printer 18, figure 1), and the two sites are connected through the network (e.g., connected through distributed network (LAN/ the internet), figure 1, paragraph 0046), and that the image processing apparatus transmits image data on which are to be performed a color matching process (e.g., The color management unit 16 is configured to provide the capability of maintaining control over color rendering among

various devices and media such as between the printing press 22 and the color printer 18, paragraph 0051) and a rasterizing process to the target printer (e.g., a raster image processor (RIP) 50 executing on the color management unit 16 utilizes a printer identification ("ID") profile and a press ID profile (target printer) in converting input image data received from the workstation 36 into the device-dependent color space of the color printer 18, paragraph 0050).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 3-6 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Spronk (US Pub. No.: 20030123072).

Regarding claim 1, an image processing apparatus for performing print simulation through a computer network (e.g., the image preparation apparatus 14, figure 1, paragraph 0046), comprising: a device selector (e.g., the color management unit 16, paragraph 0051), arranged to select a target printer on the network as a print simulation target (e.g., color printer 18, figure 1), and to select another printer on the network which is used to output a simulation result of the target printer (e.g., printing press 22, figure 1, paragraphs 0049, 0050), wherein the image processing apparatus and the

other printer are present at a single site (e.g., the image preparation apparatus 14 and printing press 22, figure 1), the target printer is present at another site (e.g., color printer 18, figure 1), and the two sites are connected through the network (e.g., distributed network 28, figure 1, paragraph 0046); a profile selector (e.g., ID creator unit 20, figure 1, paragraph 50), arranged to select a profile required for a color matching process (e.g., color printer profile and printing press profile, paragraph 0050) of the print simulation through the network (e.g., local area network (LAN) and distributed network, figure 1), and to set the selected profile in the target printer (e.g., color printer profile, paragraph 0050); a first transmitter (e.g., image data corresponding to the image constructed by the workstation 36 (transmitter) is supplied to the color management unit 16, paragraph 0049), arranged to transmit image data on which are to be performed a color matching process and a rasterizing process, wherein the target printer performs the color matching process according to the selected profile on received image data (e.g., the color management unit 16 is configured to provide the capability of maintaining control over color rendering among various devices and media such as between the printing press 22 and the color printer 18, paragraph 0051), and rasterizes the image data on which the color matching process has been performed (e.g., a raster image processor (RIP) 50 executing on the color management unit 16 utilizes a printer identification ("ID") profile and a press ID profile in converting input image data received from the workstation 36 into the device-dependent color space of the color printer 18, paragraph 0050); a receiver (e.g., color management unit 16, figure 1), arranged to receive rasterized image data from the target printer (e.g., target printer, figure 2); and a

second transmitter (e.g., the printing press image preparation apparatus 14/workstation 36 interfaces with a printing press 22 through a standard local area network (LAN), figure 1), arranged to transmit the rasterized image data to the simulation output printer so as to print an image that simulates color of an image which the target printer will print (e.g., The printing press is then configured to produce printed output corresponding to the image constructed by the user of the workstation 36, paragraph 0048).

With regard to claim 3, Spronk discloses wherein the profile is acquired by searching a profile database connected to the target printer, and a profile database present in the same site as image processing apparatus in turn (e.g., The method comprises creating a press profile representative of printing characteristics of the press device. A printer profile representative of printing characteristics of the color printer is created, paragraphs 0017, 0018).

With regard to claim 4, Spronk discloses wherein the profile is acquired by searching a profile database connected to the target printer, a profile database present in the same site as the target printer, and a profile database present in the same site as image processing apparatus in turn (e.g., paragraph 0050).

With regard to claim 5, Spronk discloses further comprising a designator arranged to designate a data format of the image data to be received (e.g., The workstation 36 may receive input image data from a variety of sources, such as from an image scanner 38, paragraph 0047), which has performed the color matching process and the rasterizing process (e.g., the resultant processed image data is supplied to the color printer 18 in order that it may print a proof of the image constructed by the

workstation 36, paragraph 0050. Note: since the image data supplied to the color printer 18 to print a proof of the image constructed by the workstation 36. Thus the workstation 36 process the colors and rasterizes the image data to produce printing plates, paragraph 0048), and wherein communication section informs the target printer of the designated data format (paragraph 0050, 0051).

With regard to claim 6, Spronk discloses wherein the target printer rasterizes the image data that has performed the color matching process to bitmap data, converts the rasterized bitmap data to image data of the designated data format, and transmits the converted image data to image processing apparatus (e.g., After the input image data is processed by the color management unit 16 on the basis of these stored ID profiles, the resultant processed image data is supplied to the color printer 18 in order that it may print a proof of the image constructed by the workstation 36, paragraph 0050).

Referring to claim 13:

Claim 13 is the method claim corresponding to operation of the device in claim 1 with method steps corresponding directly to the function of device elements in claim 1. Therefore claim 13 is rejected as set forth above for claim 1.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang N. Vo whose telephone number is (571)270-1121. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM-5:00PM Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on (571)272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Q. N. V./
Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/David K Moore/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625